

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -
FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
JUNE 30, 2022**

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
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- FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE**

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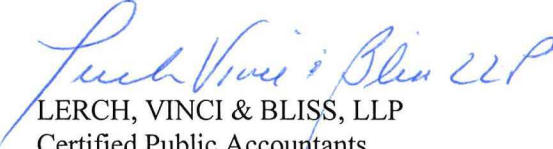
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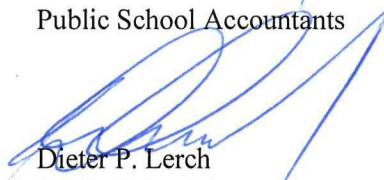
Honorable President and
Members of the Commission
South Bergen Jointure Commission
Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the South Bergen Jointure Commission in the County of Bergen for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and have issued our report thereon dated March 17, 2023.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees, others within the Commission and the New Jersey State Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.


LERCH, VINCI & BLISS, LLP
Certified Public Accountants
Public School Accountants


Dieter P. Lerch
Public School Accountant
PSA Number CS00756

Fair Lawn, New Jersey
March 17, 2023

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary and School Business Administrator, the activities of the Commission and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Commission.

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on the Insurance Schedule contained in the district's ACFR.

Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A:17-32)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Susan Cucciniello	Board Secretary/School Business Administrator	\$150,000
Nancy Bucci	Treasurer of School Monies	\$300,000

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

P.L.2020,c.44

Our audit procedures included an inquiry and subsequent review of health benefit data required per N.J.S.A.18A:16-13.3 (Chapter 44) submitted for the year on audit. The Chapter 44 summary report was reviewed for reasonableness and timeliness.

The data submitted did include all health benefit plans offered by school district. The school district data certification was completed by the chief school administrator. The school district Chapter 44 data was submitted timely.

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any material discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

Finding – Non-program related employee consultants are included as part of the monthly bills list. However, in order to enhance internal controls, it is suggested to management that these vendor invoices be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval prior to payment. No recommendation required.

Payroll Account

The net salaries of all employees of the Commission were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees' payroll deductions and employer's share of payroll taxes were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

All payrolls tested are approved and were certified by the President of the Board, the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholding.

Payrolls were delivered to the Treasurer with a warrant made to her order for the full amount of each payroll.

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30, for goods not yet received or services not yet rendered and it was determined that no blanket purchase orders were included in the balance of the reserves for

encumbrances. Also, unpaid purchase orders included in the balance of accounts payable were reviewed for propriety and to determine that goods were received and services were rendered, as of June 30.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(f) as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. We also reviewed the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. As a result of the procedures performed, a transaction error rate of 0% was noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Business Administrator's Records

The financial records, books of account and minutes maintained by the Board Secretary were in good condition.

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

Bids received were summarized in the minutes (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21).

Acknowledgment of the Commission's receipt of the monthly financial report was included in the minutes.

Treasurer's Records

The Treasurer's records were in agreement with the records of the Board Secretary.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The District's Special Projects were approved as listed on Exhibit K-3 (Schedule A) and Exhibit K-4 (Schedule B) located in the ACFR.

Our examination of the Federal and State funds on a test basis indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

Finding 2022-001 – The audit of Federal grant awards revealed a drawdown was made under the ARP Non-Title I grant, however the expenditures were not properly identified and charged to the Special Revenue Fund.

Recommendation – It is recommended that ARP Non-Title I grant expenditures be properly identified and reported in the Special Revenue Fund.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursements

Our audit procedures included a test of the semi-monthly reimbursement forms filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

School Purchasing Programs

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

The bid threshold in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 is \$44,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent). The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3 is \$20,200 effective 2021-22.

The Commission has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the fiscal year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Commission Attorney's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

In as much as the system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not reasonably be ascertained. Disbursements were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

The results of our examination indicated no instances where payments, contracts, or agreements were made" for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies," in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

The system of records did not provide for an accumulation of purchases for which the Commission used contracts entered into by the State Department of Purchase and Property pursuant to Ch. 114, P.L. 1977, therefore, the extent of such purchases could not reasonably be ascertained. Our examination did reveal, however, that purchases were made through the use of State contracts.

School Food Services

Public Health Emergency

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the public health emergency all Public, Charter, Non-Public schools were ordered to close effective as of March 18, 2020 for an undetermined period to limit the spread of the virus. As a result, School Food Authorities (SFA) were required to institute alternate procedures to provide meals to eligible students during the period of school closures. Governor Murphy's emergency declaration Governor Murphy's emergency declaration ended June 4, 2021; however, the United States Department of Agriculture's federal waiver continued through June 30, 2022. Food Service Agencies operated under this federal waiver.

As a result, School Food Authorities (SFAs) were required to provide meals in accordance with the regulations governing the National School Nutrition Seamless Summer Option (SSO). SFAs could also choose to participate in the National School Lunch Program utilizing standard counting and claiming practices.

SFAs were authorized to solicit and award emergency noncompetitive procurements and contracts with Food Service Management Companies in accordance with 2 CFR 200.320 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7. The SFAs were also authorized to submit contract modifications to their existing Cost Reimbursable or Fixed Price contracts as necessary to ensure the feeding of all children throughout the ages of 18, as well as persons over 18 with disabilities as defined in the regulations.

SFAs were notified of the requirement to maintain and report separate meal count records and financial records of all applicable costs incurred in providing meals to all free and reduced price meal eligible students during the emergency.

The School Food Service Program was not selected as a major Federal or State program. However, the program expenditures

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

School Food Services – Continued

exceeded \$100,000 in Federal support. Accordingly, we inquired of school management as to whether the School Food Authority (SFA) had any Child Nutrition Program reimbursement overclaims or underclaims.

We also inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA's expenditures of school food service revenues were limited to allowable direct and indirect costs.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food services were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The free and reduced price meal and free milk policy is uniformly administered throughout the School System. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price applications were completed and available for review.

Expenditures were separately recorded as food, labor and other costs. Vendor invoices were reviewed and costs verified. Inventory records on food supply items were currently maintained and properly applied in determining the cost of food and supplies used.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit.

The Commission utilizes a food service management company (FSMC) and is depositing and expending program monies in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34, and 19-1 through 19-4.1. Provisions of the FSMC contract/addendum were reviewed and audited. The FSMC contract provides for an administrative/management fee be paid to the FSMC, in addition to the costs of operation.

The cash disbursements records reflected expenditures for program related goods and services. The appropriate revenue and expenditure records were maintained in order to substantiate the non-profit status of the school food service.

Finding - Net cash resources did exceed three months average expenditures. The District will implement a plan to spend the excess cash in the amount of \$60,000. No recommendation required.

Food Distribution Program commodities were received and a separate inventory was maintained on a first-in, first-out basis.

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the ACFR on Exhibits B-4, 5 and 6.

Student Activity Fund

The Board has a policy, which clearly established the regulation of student activity funds.

Pupil Transportation

Our procedures included a review of transportation related contracts and purchases. Based on our review, the Commission complied with proper bidding procedures and award of contracts. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

Additional Suggestions to Management

- Excess PPE inventory be reviewed and sold or disposed of prior to expiration
- Certain employee contracts be modified to reflect the Commission's policy regarding Chapter 78 employee contributions.

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
FOOD SERVICE FUND
ENTERPRISE FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY

NOT APPLICABLE

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
FOOD SERVICE FUND
NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE
ENTERPRISE FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

**Food
Service**

Net Cash Resources:

Current Assets

Cash & Cash Equiv.	\$	34,705
Due from Other Gov'ts		29,875
Due from Other Funds		79,009

Current Liabilities

Less Accounts Payable		
Less Due to Other Funds		
Less Deferred Revenue		

Net Cash Resources	\$	143,589	(A)
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Net Adj. Total Operating Expense:

Tot. Operating Exp.	\$	272,469
Less Depreciation		

Adj. Tot. Oper. Exp.	\$	272,469	(B)
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Average Monthly Operating Expense:

B / 10	\$	27,247	(C)
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Three times monthly Average:

3 X C	\$	81,741	(D)
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TOTAL IN BOX A	\$	143,589
LESS TOTAL IN BOX D	\$	81,741
NET	\$	61,848

From above:

A is greater than D. Net Cash Resources do exceed 3 X average monthly operating expenses.

* Inventories are not to be included in total current assets.

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

There are none.

II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

2022-001 – It is recommended that ARP Non-Title I grant expenditures be properly identified and reported in the Special Revenue Fund.

III. School Purchasing Program

There are none.

IV. School Food Services

There are none.

V. Student Activity Fund

There are none.

VI. Application for State School Aid

There are none.

VII. Pupil Transportation

There are none.

VIII. Facilities and Capital Assets

There are none.

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

RECOMMENDATIONS (Continued)

IX. Miscellaneous

There are none.

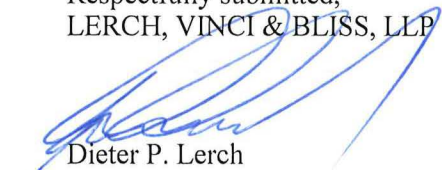
X. Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations

Corrective action was taken.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of our audit team.

Respectfully submitted,
LERCH, VINCI & BLISS, LLP



Dieter P. Lerch
Public School Accountant
PSA Number CS00756